Atty. Docket No. YOR92000054US1 (590.007)

REMARKS

Applicants and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. Claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-18 were pending at the time of the outstanding Office Action. Claims 1-3, 8-11, and 16-18 were rejected and Claims 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, and 15 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, but objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim.

In the present Amendment Applicants have either rewritten objected claims in independent form, cancelled rejected claims without prejudice, rewritten rejected claims to incorporate the limitation of allowed claims, or changed the dependencies of the rejected claims so that they now depend from the allowed claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit all claims remaining in the application are now allowable.

In particular, Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice; Claim 7 has been amended to include all limitations from Claims 1, 3, and 7; Claim 12 has been amended to include all limitations from Claims 10, 11, and 12; Claim 15 has been amended to include all limitations from 10, 11, and 15; Claims 2 and 8 have been amended to depend from Claim 7; Claim 16 has been amended to depend from Claim 15; and Claim 18 has been amended to effectively include the same claim limitations as set forth in amended Claim 7. It should be noted, however, Applicants intend no change in the scope of the claims by the changes made by these amendments and these amendments are not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but have been made merely to expedite prosecution.

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In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 12, 13, and 15-18, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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